



For more information about the Cornell University Child Care Center please contact the center at:
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Bright Horizons Opens Full-Service Child Care Center at Cornell University

High-Quality Early Education Program Reflects Cornell's Commitment to Recruiting, Retaining, and Supporting Talented and Diverse Faculty, Staff, and Students

Ithaca, NY, October 23, 2008 –With the recent opening of the Cornell University Child Care Center, managed by Bright Horizons Family Solutions, faculty, staff, and students have a new on-campus high-quality child care option while at work or school. Goals of the center include creating a positive, supportive environment for children while improving work/life integration for the Cornell community.

The Cornell University Child Care Center offers full-service child care and education for children ages six weeks to 5 years old and is open to all segments of the university community. The program can also accommodate children on a back-up care basis when a family's traditional child care provider is unavailable.

"We are very proud to offer our staff and faculty a high-quality child care solution on campus to expand the options for our community," said Mary Opperman, vice president for human resources, Cornell University. "The child care center reflects our unwavering commitment to Cornell's ongoing emphasis on work/family priorities."

Studies Reveal Impact of Child Care on Campus

Recently, the Bright Horizons Consulting Practice surveyed more than 97,000 faculty, staff and students at public and private universities across the country to measure the impact of child care in an academic setting. The responses underscore the need for addressing the child care challenges in a university environment and reveal that when faculty, staff, and students are faced with child care challenges, their ability to concentrate, meet expectations, take on more responsibilities, and complete projects on time is compromised. According to the study, 60 percent of faculty have cancelled office hours or student/faculty appointments due to child care issues and 35 percent of faculty and graduate students have been unable to apply for a grant or participate in an externally funded study, or have interrupted or suspended their work on a grant or research initiative.

"We are excited about our great partnership with Cornell University. The new Cornell University Child Care Center managed by Bright Horizons will create a supportive work/life environment on campus and deliver a strategic advantage that will enhance Cornell's efforts to hire and retain the best and brightest faculty and staff and thereby recruit top students," said Bright Horizons CEO David Lissy.

A Place Where Children Can Thrive

Informed by the research of early childhood experts, the curriculum at the Cornell University Child Care Center is child- and play-centered, tailored to the needs of individual children at their own developmental level and includes attention to social connection, physical movement, music, art, and language. The center invites family involvement, fosters the building of community, and promotes respect for each family.

The child care center was designed specifically to meet the environmental and educational needs of young children. The 16,240 square foot stand-alone facility is on North Campus in a natural setting filled with trees and greenery. There are dedicated playgrounds for each age group, built-in underground sprinklers and a dry creek bed for water play, a butterfly garden, and large outdoor instruments for the children to explore. Classrooms were built with large windows to maximize indoor natural light.

Bright Horizons is operating the Cornell University Child Care Center as it does each of its programs, according to the highest standards of excellence as defined by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Other higher-education clients of Bright Horizons include Duke, Georgia Tech, Johns Hopkins, and MIT.

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About Bright Horizons Family Solutions

Bright Horizons Family Solutions (www.brighthorizons.com) is the world's leading provider of employer-sponsored child care, back-up care, early education and work/life solutions. The company operates more than 600 child care and early education centers across the U.S., in Europe, and Canada. Bright Horizons was recently named one of FORTUNE magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work For in America."